

St Elphin's Chronicle

They shall grow not old
As we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
We will remember them

November 2025



Vol 137



Price 50p



Services & Events at St Elphins for November 2025

Sunday 2 nd	All Saints Tide and Patronal Festival
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
Monday 3 rd	
6.30pm	All Souls Service
Wednesday 5 th	No service of Holy Communion
Saturday 8 th	Festival of Remembrance 2025
7.00pm	Tickets £5.00
Sunday 9 th	Remembrance Sunday – Please note time changes
9.00am	Said Holy Communion
10.30am	Morning Prayer including Act of Remembrance
11.00am	Act of Remembrance at The Cenotaph
Wednesday 12 th	
10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 th	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
12.30pm	Baptisms
Wednesday 19 th	
10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 rd	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 26 th	
10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 30 th	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion

The Parish Staff

Rector:	Revd Anne Dowdeswell	07706 413076 st.elphinwarrington@gmail.com
Churchwarden:	Janet Cliffe	07778 899492
Assistant Churchwardens:	Kathryn Hayes Ken Jeffery Dianne Rothwell	01925-656790 stelphin246@btinternet.com

Websites:

St Elphin's: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/15292>

Diocesan Website: <http://www.liverpoolcofe.org>

Cathedral Website: <http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk>



WarringtonParishChurch (Instagram)



www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15292 (internet)



warringtonparishchurch (Facebook)

If you would like to receive an electronic version of the parish magazine please email: stelphin246@btinternet.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Alternatively, you can download the magazine from our website at <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/15292>

If you would like to support the work of St Elphin's contactless payments can be made by using this QR code:



Reverend Anne would like to thank everyone who was able to attend her Installation Service on October 30th. Thanks also go to everyone who sent cards and good wishes on her appointment.

A few photographs from Thursday night.





Ryfields & St John's Court Communion Service

The next service of Holy Communion at Ryfields will be on Thursday 6th November at 10.00am.

Please note that there will not be a service at St Johns in November. The next service at St Johns Court will be on Tuesday 9th December at 11.30am.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me (07778 899492)

Janet Cliffe



St Elphin's Ladies Group



We've decided to restart Ladies Group in January with a meal out – more details to follow in December's magazine.



Big Clean

Many thanks to the ATC who joined us to help clean the church in readiness for the Festival of Remembrance.

Our last Big Clean for the year will be on Saturday 6th December. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to help us clean church in readiness for Christmas.

Pause for Thought with Norma Fox

Living in the Light

It was a dark November morning, low steel-coloured clouds filled the sky, and the atmosphere was so dim that I needed to turn on the lights in order to read a book. I had just settled in when the room suddenly filled with light. I looked up and saw that the wind was pushing the clouds to the east, clearing the sky and revealing the sun.

As I went to the window to get a better look at the drama, a thought came to mind: *'The darkness is passing and the true light is already shining'* (1 John 2:8). The apostle John wrote these words to believers as a message of encouragement. He went on to say *'Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble'* (v10). By contrast, he equated hating people with roaming around in darkness. Hatred is disorientating; it takes away our sense of moral direction.

Loving people is not always easy. Yet I was reminded as I looked out of the window that frustration, forgiveness and faithfulness are all part of maintaining a deep connection with the love and light of God. When we choose to love instead of hate, we are showing our relationship with Him and reflecting His radiance to the world around us. *'God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all'* (1 John 1:5).

Choosing to love people well shows the world what God is like.

* * *

Sadly this has to be my last 'Pause for Thought' for a while as my circumstances at home have changed.

It has been a privilege to write to you for so many years, and I shall miss you. I will hold you all in love, in friendship and in my daily prayers. Please pray for me.

God bless, everyone

Norma

Big Give this Christmas

For many years, she and her husband struggled to get by. With no savings to rely on, they had no way to plan, invest, or guarantee an education for their four children or 16 grandchildren. The slightest setback, such as an illness, or crop failure, could plunge them deeper into poverty. Life has been unimaginably hard.

When a Mothers' Union savings group started in her parish, Miriam joined. Each week she and her neighbours save, learn new skills, build businesses, and encourage one another in faith. Most of all, they're changing their mindset, trusting that with God's help, change is possible. 'We begin with the Bible. We remind each other that love must come first. If you treat people with care, if you put your heart into serving them, then your business will succeed.' With this foundation, Miriam and her group are making lasting change in their community.

'There was a time I thought nothing would ever change,' says Miriam. But today, thanks to her savings group and the small cereal business she runs, she speaks of dignity, stability, and hope. With faith and hard work, she pays school fees for her grandchildren, improves her home, and is even investing in bulls to grow her livelihood.

You can help more families in Uganda put food on the table, send children to school, and build a future filled with hope, not fear. And there's never been a better time to give. Between 2 and 9 December, every £1 you donate online will be doubled through the Big Give. That means your generosity could help twice as many women start businesses, twice as many children stay in school, and twice as many families take their first steps out of poverty

May we wait on the Lord and find our strength renewed by Him. May the love of Christ, help us to soar with wings like an eagle. May we run and not grow weary, walk, and not faint, as the Spirit of God lifts us up. Amen.

Branch meetings 2025

Unless otherwise stated meetings take place in church at 2.00pm

Wed Dec 10th St Elphin's Church 2.00pm – Christmas meeting

Tea / Coffee in November

2nd Volunteers required

9th Wendy

16th Volunteers required

23rd Wendy

30th Wendy

Please sign up on the list in the kitchen if you are able to help.



St Elphin's 50/50 Club



The results of the October draw are as follows:

1st Helen Billinge

2nd Barbara Barrett

3rd John Rowson

4th Margaret Sefton

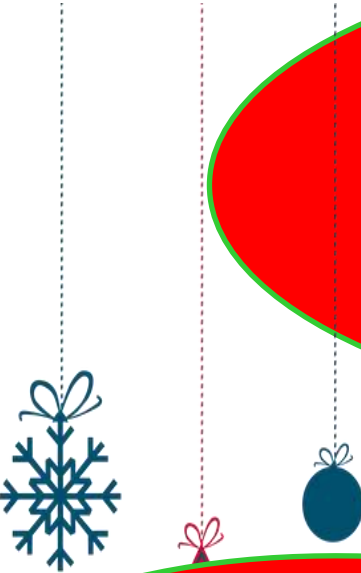
£102.50 went to church funds

The next draw will take place on Sunday 22nd November and payments must be made by Sunday 15th to be in the draw. Any payments made after that date will be assumed to be for the following month. Any cheques should be made payable to 'St Elphin's 50/50 Club'.

The more people who are in the 50/50 the more money we collect for church funds and the better the prizes for the winners.

If you are not already a member, would you consider joining?

For more information, then please speak to Janet Cliffe.



St Elphin's Church Christmas Fayre & Grand Raffle

Saturday 29th November
11.00am – 3.00pm

Music by St Elphin's School Choir at 12.00noon
Grand Raffle to be drawn at 2.00pm



- Hand-made Crafts & Gifts
- Christmas Stall
- Candles
- Stained Glass
- Cake Stall
- Refreshments
- Jigsaws & Books
- Tombola
- Children's Books
- and much, much more!

Our Christmas Fayre and Grand Raffle will take place on Saturday 29th November and we would be grateful to receive donations of gifts for the stalls and Raffle.

We also need volunteers to help set up on Friday 28th and to help on the stalls on Saturday 29th and also help us to tidy up after the Fayre.

Tickets for our Grand Raffle will be available at the back of church in mid-October.

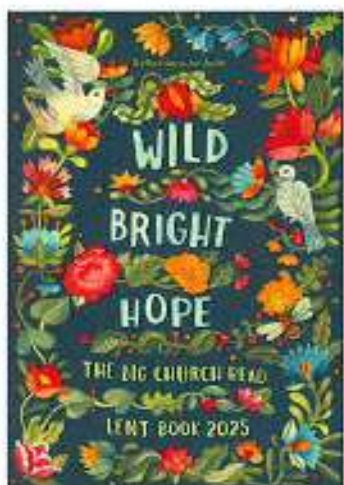
Donations towards the prizes are also welcome.

Please speak to Dianne, Janet or Kathryn for more information.



Book Review from Mara

Wild Bright Hope – The Big Church Read 2025



This book was compiled for the Big Church Read – Lent book for this year. I had already chosen what I wanted to read during Lent, and this has just made it to the top of my 'To Be Read' pile this month.

A group of writers have written about what gives them hope, and how we might play a part ourselves in bringing in the kingdom of God.

Each reflection on aspects of faith has questions and a section on where to go next to learn more about each topic and do more to make a difference in our communities and the wider world.

Topics include: the radical grace of God; hope in suffering; seeds of unity and wild paths of peace.

This was a book to read and think about after each writers' thoughts, and I was pleased to see a notes section at the back of the book with references and further reading. It is a book to challenge, maybe unsettle, and to open our eyes to the challenges in the world in new ways.

Church Finances for 2025

For the last few years, I have been providing details monthly of the income and expenditure on the general account only. This account pays most of the church expenses including gas, electricity, insurance and clergy housing and other expenses. Therefore, this report for 2024 and 2025, now includes income and expenditure on all accounts including fabric fund, and investments.

Month	Income		Expenditure	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
January	23,488	9,283	4,960	7,001
February	5,621	45,237	7,453	6,257
March	6,665	37,780	11,369	10,440
April	17,601	15,080	7,060	9,072
May	8,153	8,992	14,720	8,627
June	4,679	7,939	5,930	7,310
July	13,081	8,386	7,623	7,106
August	2,966	4,846	6,735	6,663
September	5,528	6,917	4,950	5,668
Total	£87,789	£145,144	£70,801	£68,145

Income

January 2025 income included £15,000 from the estate of Paul Nener. Feb 2024 included £40k in Legacies. April 2025 includes £2469 tax relief and £11649 bank interest, May 2025 includes £5,602 in bank interest, July includes £10,194 in bank interest.

Expenditure

Expenditure is currently running about £3.4k more than the same time in 2024, mainly due to the reduction in the Parish Share, and the cost of roof repairs to the clergy vestry.

Many regular donations are now either through the Parish giving scheme or through other electronic means which means less visits to the bank and less cost to the church as banking cash and cheques incur additional charges. Thank you for those who are now using these methods. If anyone would like to know more about how to donate or about the church finances please see me.

Wendy Bailey, PCC Treasurer, Tel: 07963 021172

Donations:

General Fund

Anniversary memories of Arthur Cresswell from Dianne	10.00
Birthday memories of Marjorie Cresswell from Dianne	10.00
Anniversary memories of John Rothwell from Dianne	10.00



St Elphin's Prayer List

All those who are ill or in need of our love and prayers:

Daisy Easton	Margaret Lomax	Roland Jackson
Carol Shaw	Brenda Hill	Stan Rowe
Doreen Robinson	Andrew Clare	Joyce Bradbury
Maynard Glover	Margaret Gurney	Victor Moran
Joy & Ray Foster	Mike Hughes	Gill Molyneaux
Ron Leather	Fred Allen	Sharon Hopkins
Sam and Barbara Sheldon	Ann Finlay	Emily Craddock
Canon John Holden	Ron Hart	Scarlett Keegan
Dave Prescott	Terry Buxton	

For those who are bereaved of:

Don Fox	David Lovatt
Jeffrey Isaac	Joyce Wood

Parish Registers

Christian Burial & Cremation in October

14 th	Harry Massey	Age 90
21 st	David Eccles	Age 70



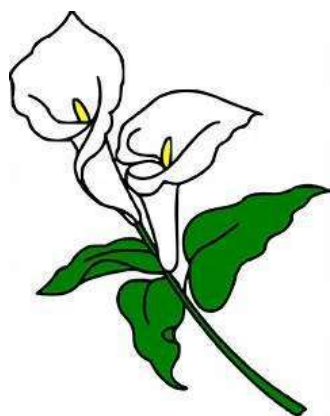


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Stockton Heath	01925 602932



Coffee Bar@Holy Trinity



Coffee Bar

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HT Coffee Bar

Monday & Wednesday 10.00am – Noon Friday 10.00am – 1.00pm